

We at the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce strive to promote the economic vitality and quality of life within the Fresno region, and we encourage sound public policy to help us accomplish this goal. One such policy is competition in the long distance market in the telecommunications industry.

I strongly urge the FCC to approve SBC Pacific Bell's application to provide long distance service. It is up to the FCC to enact policies and regulations that add to competition, not hinder it. In order to do this, the market must be open to competitors.

More than 100 million Americans are already benefiting from increased telecommunications competition. Our members of the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce--and Californians as a whole --should be next.

We hope you will support our long-standing mission to create a business-friendly environment and allow SBC Pacific Bell to compete for long distance.

Thank you,
Stebbins F. Dean
Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce